

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing method of a steering column apparatus for a carvehicle in which a steering column is supported and secured on the carvehicle body through a bracket, said method comprising the steps of:  
forming in advance said bracket of in advance, said bracket including a plurality of divided individual components, and connecting these plurality of divided components connected by caulking, at the time of assembling, so as to assemble said bracket

wherein said individual components include:

a U-shaped main body component which integrally comprises two side portions each having an insertion hole and extended in parallel to an axis of said steering column, a connecting portion connecting said side portions, and flange portions to be attached to the vehicle body, the flange portions having caulking recesses and extending, respectively, along sides of said steering column from said side portions, and

two separate components respectively having integrally first plate portions to be opposed to said flange portions of the main body component and provided with insertion projections to be connected to said respective insertion holes and second plate portions to be opposed to said side portions of the main body component and provided with caulking projections to be connected to said respective caulking recesses; wherein said insertion holes of said side portions and said insertion projections of said first plate portions are respectively connected to each other, and said caulking recesses of said flange portions and said caulking projections of said second plate portions are respectively connected to each other, and

wherein shock absorbing plate members are respectively disposed between said side portions of the main body component and said two separate components, an end of each shock absorbing plate member being secured to the vehicle body and extended along said side portions of the main body component and then bent and folded back along said first plate portions of said separate components.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing method of a steering column apparatus for a ~~car~~vehicle in which a column-side bracket attached to a steering column is brought into pressure contact with a body-side bracket attached ~~entoto~~to the body of the ~~car~~to-be-retainedvehicle, characterized in that:

said column-side bracket is comprised of ~~divided~~individual components including a main body ~~portion~~which consists ofcomponent having a column supporting portion directly in contact with and secured to a lower part of the steering column ~~and secured to said lower part~~ and two side plate portions integrally formed with said column supporting portion and respectively in pressure contact with ~~the inner surfaces of the both~~two side plate portions of said body-side bracket, the side plate portions of said main body component each being formed at an end thereof with a caulking recess, andsaid individual components further including a fit plate ~~portion which is~~component having ends each formed with a caulking projection to be engaged with a corresponding one of said caulking recesses formed separately from said main body portion for coupling said side plate portions of said main body ~~portion~~component to each other; and

said caulking recesses of the said main body  
portion component and said caulking projections of the said  
fit plate portion component are respectively connected to  
each other by caulking ~~at the time of assembling, thereby~~  
~~assembling the~~ during assembly of said column-side bracket.

4. (Currently Amended) A steering column apparatus for  
a car vehicle comprising a body-side bracket attached to the  
body of the car vehicle for retaining a column-side bracket  
attached to the steering column by bringing the column-side  
bracket into pressure contact with two side plate portions  
of said body-side bracket extending in parallel to ~~the~~ an  
axis of the steering column with the steering column passing  
therebetween, characterized in that:

said column-side bracket is comprised of individual  
components including a main body portion which consists  
of component having a column supporting portion directly in  
contact with and secured to a lower part of the steering  
column and secured to said lower part and two side plate  
portions integrally formed with said column supporting  
portion and respectively in pressure contact with the inner  
surfaces of ~~the both said~~ said side plate portions of said body-  
side bracket, the side plate portions of said main body  
component each being formed at an end thereof with a

caulking recess, andsaid individual components further  
including a fit plate portion~~which is formed~~component  
having ends each formed with a caulking projection to be  
engaged with a corresponding one of said caulking recesses  
~~separately from said main body portion~~for coupling said  
side plate portions of said main body portioncomponent to  
each other; and

said caulking recesses of thesaid main body  
~~portion~~component and said caulking projections of thesaid  
fit plate portioncomponent are respectively connected to  
each other by caulking.

5. (Canceled)